

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03

SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /075 W

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R 091354Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 8747

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OECD PARIS 26205

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, GR, OECD

SUBJECT: VAN LENNEP VISIT TO GREECE

REFS.: (A) ATHENS 7654

(B) OECD PARIS 12568

(C) STATE 122071

1. DURING AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON VAN LENNEP OCTOBER 7, SECGEN BRIEFLY MENTIONED HIS RECENT VISIT TO GREECE. SECGEN SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED WITH PAPALIGOURAS IDEA OF GREEK CONSORTIUM WHICH HAD BEEN ADVANCED BY PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS A FEW MONTHS AGO (REF B). PAPALIGOURAS TOLD VAN LENNEP THAT HE REGRETTEED THAT CARAMANLIS HAD AIRED THIS IDEA. HE INDICATED GOG WAS NOT INTERESTED IN ORGANIZATION OF CONSORTIUM. WHAT GREECE NEEDED WAS CONTINUATION AND SOME EXPANSION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP IMPROVE MANAGEMENT AND EFFICIENCY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES. VAN LENNEP STATED THAT PAPALIGOURAS AND OTHER GREEK OFFICIALS WERE HIGHLY CONCERNED ABOUT GREECE'S SERIOUS BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS DIFFICULTIES. THEY ARE ANXIOUSLY AWAITING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OECD FINANCIAL SUPPORT FUND AND EXPECT THAT GREECE WILL FIND IT NECESSARY TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE

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FUND.

2. VAN LENNEP STRESSED TO GOG IMPORTANCE OF BETTER
PARTICIPATION BY GREECE IN OECD ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING
MORE AND HIGHER-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES FROM ATHENS, AND
HE BELIEVES HE MADE SOME IMPACT IN THIS AREA.
TURNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SECRETARY GENERAL, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, VISITS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT, PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OECDP26205
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750351-0651
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751066/aaaacgic.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VAN LENNEP VISIT TO GREECE
TAGS: EFIN, GR, OECD, (VAN LENNEP, EMILE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006